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metroNEWS

Blame it on the billionaires

INEQUALITY

Gap between city's 1% and the rest 4th largest in N. America

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

It's a club most of us will never get to join. Members are mostly male. Interests include private jets, acquiring property and, for at least one, running for president.

They're the world's billionaires — and, in Toronto, the gap between them and the rest of us is among the biggest in the world.

Wealth accumulated by the city's 1 per cent is about 100,000 times greater than that of the average person, according to a new study from University of Toronto's Martin Prosperity Institute.

The gap is the fourth largest of any North American city, with Mexico City, Seattle and Dallas leading the pack. It's the 19th biggest gap in the world.

So, what's it all mean?

Study co-author Richard Florida summed it up like this: "It says Toronto is a very, very rich and a very, very unequal place."

"We like to think of ourselves as a progressive city. We even tried to brush Rob Ford under the rug," Florida said. "But he is the product of these objective conditions of a huge gap."

Toronto's home to only eight of the 33 billionaires in Canada. According to the study, the local crop is mostly men who range in age from 57 to 82. Working mainly in media, fashion and retail, finance, real estate and health care, they're a mix of self-made and inherited wealth, Florida said.

Canada's "lax" estate tax, which allows billionaires to "essentially hand their wealth down from generation to generation" plays a role in supporting a healthy billionaire population, he added.

Kwame McKenzie, CEO of the Wellesley Institute, a non-profit that studies inequality, said it's no secret that the income gap is a growing problem in both Canada and Toronto. He called it a "social cancer" that leads to problems with funding public services along with negatively impacting health and life expectancy.

"It really does cut through our social fabric in a way that isn't good for anyone," he said. "The question is, what will the government do about it?"

Toronto's Central Park pitched to help the city breathe metroNEWS

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Instagram rolls out comment filtering feature to curb abuse. **World**

T.O.'s Central Park

INFRASTRUCTURE

Plan is to build green space over downtown rail corridor

A bold new legacy park pitched by public officials for the downtown core, being dubbed Toronto's Central Park, would link long-separated neighbourhoods and provide much needed green space.

That's the hope of Mayor John Tory, local politicians and senior planning officials in the newly announced attempt to secure the rights to the air space over the rail corridor between Bathurst St. and Blue Jays Way to build a 21-acre deck park now being called Rail Deck Park.

Although the city made its intentions clear Wednesday, there are still many unknowns. Most critical is how to pay for the construction and maintenance of such a significant space with looming budget pressures ahead. And a project of this size, according to those pitching it, is still many years in the making.

With an area just larger than 16 regulation football fields, the proposed park would dwarf all other green spaces in the core. It's an open space that chief planner Jennifer Keesmaat said could be "our Central Park" — a "grand civic gesture" in a part of Toronto experiencing unprecedented residential growth and one that is also the most deficient in parkland.

Top: The city is pushing ahead with plans to build a deck park over a stretch of the rail corridor downtown from Bathurst to Blue Jays Way. Bottom: Early renderings show what the park could look like ahead of a design competition. COURTESY CITY OF TORONTO

With Tory's backing of a concept long considered but never acted on, the city will now move to secure the area as open space.

"If we protect it now, we will create the opportunity to deck over these rail lands and create a bold new public park," Tory said at a news conference Wednesday in CityPlace on the south side of the rail corridor. "People will be able to gaze at the skyline on the one hand, while enjoying the feeling of grass under their feet in one and the same place."

> **We will create the opportunity to deck over these rail lands.**
> Mayor John Tory

The city must first secure the rail corridor's air rights, currently owned by CN Rail and Toronto Terminals Railway (TTR), which is owned by both CN and Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR).

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

4 cities to successfully build deck parks

Major cities around the world have built parks on top of rail corridors, expressways and parking lots.

LUKE SIMCOE METRO

1 Millennium Park, Chicago

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/CC BY-SA 2.0

Built atop the Illinois Central rail yards, the park has won awards for its accessibility and sustainability. It's also the world's largest rooftop garden.

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2 Hudson Yards, New York City

In a bid to unlock land for development in Manhattan, the city has embarked on a plan to cover the West Side rail yard and build an entire mixed-use neighbourhood on top of it.

3 Federation Square, Melbourne

The eight-acre development in the heart of Melbourne is built on top of the city's busiest rail corridor. The square was named one of the world's best central plazas by The Atlantic in 2011.

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4 Klyde Warren Park, Dallas

This park in downtown Dallas, Texas opened in 2012 and is built on top of a below-grade expressway. It is an example of a public-private park; the land is owned by the City of Dallas, but the park itself is managed by a private foundation responsible for raising its $3 million operating budget.

‘Unpalatable’ transit cuts mulled by city

TRANSPORTATION

Fare discounts, delays may be needed to make budget: Chief

Meeting Mayor John Tory’s request for budget cuts next year would require the TTC to take “unpalatable” steps like eliminating all fare discounts, cutting service and delaying the opening of the Spadina subway extension, according to the transit agency’s CEO.

TTC chief Andy Byford made that case in a letter this week responding to the mayor’s directive, approved by council last month, for 2.6-per-cent budget reductions at all city departments.

According to a copy of the document obtained by Torstar News Service, measures the agency has identified to meet the goal include a 10-cent fare hike next year — the sixth increase in as many years — but those measures would still fall millions of dollars short of reaching Tory’s target.

TTC’s Andy Byford speaks to media during a media tour of the Spadina subway extension in January.
ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In the letter dated Aug. 2 and addressed to the city’s chief financial officer, Byford wrote that in its search for savings the TTC looked at “everything short of impacting service.”

“I instructed my chiefs to make the least damaging cuts first and then to progressively look at more difficult cuts,” he wrote. But he said the agency wouldn’t endorse cost reductions that would undermine the provision of public transit. “At no time would we recommend unpalatable reductions,” he said.

The TTC wouldn’t comment publicly on the letter, which spokesman Brad Ross stressed was a “work-in-progress” and not a final budget submission.

But Byford’s position could set him on a collision course with the mayor, who in an interview Wednesday raised the prospect of calling in a task force to cut costs at the TTC if the agency wasn’t able to find more savings.

“If (the TTC) can’t do this themselves, and I’m confident they have enough good management there to find these ways of doing things better and differently, then I guess we could help them,” the mayor said.

He said the approach had worked well with the police department.

After years of battles over its ballooning budget, in February the police board formed a working group to “revitalize and modernize” the service, and it has found $100 million in savings over the next three years.

Tory said he didn’t support reversing transit service improvements made under his term, but stated that the TTC could find more ways to reduce costs than Byford had already identified.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ANIMAL HEALTH

Gorilla ‘recovering nicely’ from surgery

A 44-year-old female gorilla from the Toronto Zoo is recovering after surgery to remove a mass from her leg. Medical staff from Toronto’s Scarborough Hospital performed the surgery on Tuesday in the western lowland gorilla habitat at the zoo.

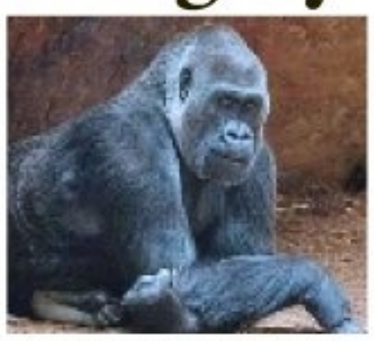
The zoo said Wednesday in a release that a large mass in Josephine’s left leg area was affecting her ability to walk so veterinarians approached the hospital’s general surgery division to discuss options.

The mass turned out to be a slow-growing, fatty lump underneath the skin, and it was determined Josephine’s ability to walk normally was also related to arthritis, which was investigated while she was under anesthetic.

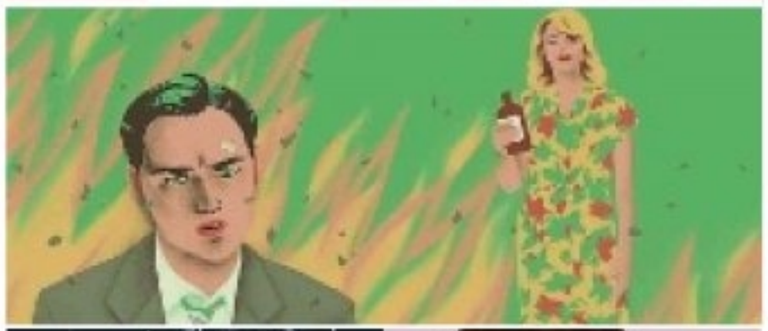
Dr. Saul Mandelbaum says the surgery went very well and Josephine is “recovering nicely.”

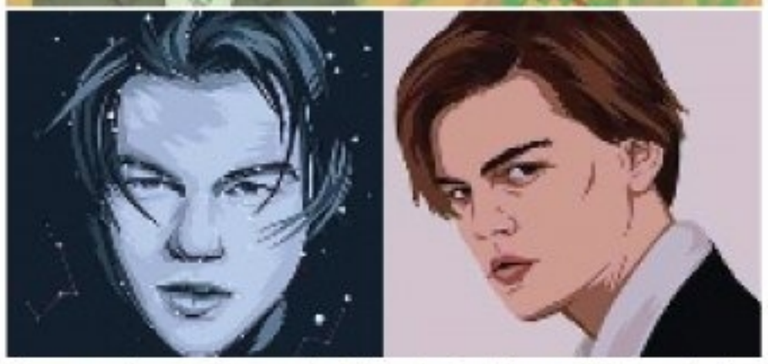
The zoo’s wildlife health centre and wildlife care team are monitoring Josephine while she recovers.

“We wanted the best care for Josephine, who is an older gorilla, which is why we approached Dr. Mandelbaum, who performs inguinal hernia surgeries on a regular basis, often in elderly patients,” said Dr. Chris Dutton, head of veterinary services at the Toronto Zoo.
THE CANADIAN PRESS



Josephine the gorilla is doing well. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE





These, and more, Leonardo DiCaprio sketches will be on display this month at the Steam Whistle gallery. CONTRIBUTED

FANDOM

Leo-Mania will go on, thanks to show

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Two Toronto artists are out to prove that Leonardo DiCaprio is still king of the world.

Sabrina Parolin and Jennifer Ilett have joined forces for what very well may be the first art exhibit dedicated solely to the Oscar winning actor. It features one-of-kind illustrations of the pop culture idol, capturing his film career from the early days (think Basketball Diaries) to more modern flicks like Wolf of Wall Street and The Revenant.

The goal, they said, is to inspire others to be as passionate as they are about Leo.

“From our childhood, Leo is a huge coming-of-age icon for our generation,” Parolin said. “He’s just like a key figure of romance in so many of our fantasies.”

Initially, creating the works was “challenging,” she added.

“But, once you’ve drawn Leo a few times, the work becomes easy.”

The exhibit — which draws its name from a famous line in the Titanic script: Draw me like one of your French girls — opened Wednesday and runs through Aug. 31 at the art gallery in Steam Whistle brewery. Visitors can buy a 34-page book with images from the show for $20.

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T.O. 2 RIO

Our athletes at the Games

'I'm not scared to fight'

BOXING

Canada's lone male boxer ready for anything in Rio

Joe Callaghan
For Metro | Toronto

Boxer Arthur Biyarslanov feels he "owes" Canada a gold medal after the country accepted his family as immigrants and gave them a chance to succeed. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

"Fighting is nothing compared to what I've been through, what we've all been through."

The word "journey" gets worn thin every four years when the Olympics roll around. But for Arthur Biyarslanov, it's worth dusting it off and puffing it up.

For Canada's only male boxer at the Rio Games, this really has been one hell of a journey.

The 21-year-old's fighting nickname, the "Chechen Wolf", gives a hint of his long and remarkable winding road to Brazil.

"I think about it almost every day — where I am today, what I have been through," Biyarslanov says. "It usually comes in at nighttime before I go to sleep. My journey kicks in and makes me appreciate what I've been through and what I have now."

His family left war-torn Chechnya in 1999. Frantically fleeing conflict across the border to Azerbaijan, his mother handing her four children to soldiers for fear they wouldn't all make it.

"My mom carried us on to that bridge, and we were all alone. That was fighting for life," says Biyarslanov. "So boxing, I'm not scared to fight. I'll fight everyone."

Ella Biyarslanov arrived in Toronto with her children six years later. For Arthur, without a word of English, sports provided a common language. First through soccer — his first word as a baby was "goal" — and later, after a lot of convincing from older brother Rustam, boxing.

The flight from war, the fight to fit in here, the constant urgings of a father-figure sibling, there are so many factors that go into the make-up of this rising fighter. And then, there's Pokémon.

"From a very young age I always had hard hands," explains Biyarslanov, who competes in the light welterweight division. "I used to play Pokémon cards on the floor and I would slap my hands on the floor. That gave me strong hands.

"When I was young, there wasn't much to do. There was no phones, we had to use what we had around. At that time Pokémon was really big. It was a different kind of game though, there were cards that you had to slap down and flip them over. I was really good at it."

Those hard hands have been felt by many who have come the southpaw's way in recent times. He ended one gold medal drought on home soil at the Pan Am Games last summer.

Now he wants to end another in Brazil. He feels it's the least he owes his adopted homeland.

"Canada has accepted a lot of immigrants," adds Biyarslanov, who has put his psychology degree at York University on hold while gearing up for Rio.

"It's a great, welcoming country that opens its doors and gives you opportunities. It's why I am where I am today. It's why I want to win a gold medal for Canada in the Olympics. It's been 28 years since we won a gold.

"It's what I feel I owe to Canada. I appreciate everything this country has given me."

ABOUT THIS SERIES

T.O. 2 Rio
This is the final instalment where Metro introduces you to Olympic athletes from Toronto as they step onto the road to Rio. Check out Metro's continuing coverage as Canada's athletes take their shot at gold.

Sailors to take the helm in Rio amid water concerns

It makes sense to catch up with Brenda Bowskill and Tom Ramshaw by the shores of Lake Ontario. Water is their natural habitat.

It would be hard to find two more relaxed first-time Olympians. At 24 years old, Bowskill and Ramshaw are facing their most daunting competition yet. But, they've been doing this since they were six and eight respectively.

For Bowskill, it was summers spent on Toronto Island at Queen City Yacht Club before moving to the Royal Canadian in her late teens. For Ramshaw, it was the Stony Lake club near his family cottage, with whom he's still affiliated all these years later.

"Obviously it's crazy exciting," says Ramshaw who competes in the Finn Class. "But on the water, it's just another regatta, a little less intimate."

By its nature, sailing is a form of competitive loneliness. Spending so much time out there, navigating your own way, the challenges come thick and fast. For both Bowskill and Ramshaw, their sport has helped them grow up — fast.

"Sailing does get lonely," says Bowskill who competes in the Laser Radial. "You're always on your own. It's all on you, you have to be comfortable dealing with it. For me, I'm really self-critical. I have to work very hard to brush it off and get going again. But you learn that along the way."

Both have begun and then paused university courses. Bowskill is putting hers on temporary hold while Ramshaw is on a more permanent hiatus from engineering.

"I wouldn't say I put my schooling or any of my life on hold because sailing is my life now," he says. "Wherever it can take me, I will go with that."

"I'm halfway through my degree in nursing," Bowskill explains, eliciting a grin from Ramshaw. "Sorry, I just can't imagine you as a nurse," he says.

"I'd make a great nurse," replies Bowskill. "My family never really pushed me into university because it will always be there for you, sport may not.

"Sailing has always been a huge part of my life. You're never really wasting your time if you're going to the Olympics."

In a build-up beset by waves of problems, the cleanliness of the water all sailors will compete on in Rio has been one of the most high-profile issues. Neither of these sailors, who've both tried and tested the postcard-perfection but contaminated Guanabara Bay many times, seem overly upset.

"My family have been more worried about safety, not so much the water," says Bowskill.

"It's the dirtiest water we sail on but at least it's winter," argues Ramshaw. "I was there four years ago in summer and it was really hot and really dirty. If I was a swimmer I would probably be worried about it. But we'll be fine. Don't drink it, I guess."

"Don't drink it," repeats his teammate. "Good policy."

JOE CALLAGHAN/FOR METRO

SOMETHING IN THE WATER

While the cleanliness of Rio's waters are a huge concern, so too is the unique geography of the Marvellous City, where winds and currents can change around the Sugarloaf Mountain in an instant. "It's much trickier than a lot of venues," said Bowskill. "But, I've heard a saying: 'The less time people have spent in Rio, the better they do.'"

Sailing duo Brenda Bowskill and Tom Ramshaw are heading to Brazil after years on the local shoreline. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

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Pokécitizens aim to disprove bad rap

GAMING

Pokémon GO players to clean up city

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

With garbage bags and gloves in hand, they plan to give up their Saturday morning to tidy up a public space that's seen a lot of wear and tear lately.

It's not an environmental club. Rather, it's a group of concerned Pokémon GO players who want to show the city they care.

The good "Pokécitizens" have been rallied to action by Jermain Virgo who decided something needed to be done after the city expressed concerns about a tide of people — and the garbage they're leaving behind — hunting Pokémon at the Jack Layton Ferry Terminal. The city has been getting complaints and is in talks with Pokémon GO's developer to remove Pokéstops near the terminal.

Pokémon Go fans Jermain Virgo, left, Daisy Sun, Jessica Matteazzi and David Matteazzi are all part of an effort to clean up the Jake Layton Ferry Terminal. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

Virgo hopes the Saturday cleanup lead by his PoGO T.O. Rangers can help prove players are respectful and deserve their fair share of the city.

"It's more about how the city of Toronto and how the politicians are treating Pokémon GO players," said Virgo, a 24-year-old law student. "I think a lot of the Pokémon Go players are feeling as if they don't count."

Some people see players as a nuisance, he said, "but we're Torontonians too."

Matthew Cutler, a spokesman for Toronto Parks, Forestry, and Recreation applauded players' willingness to roll up their sleeves and help clean the area.

"It may not solve all of the issues in terms of congestion and security at the ferry terminal. Regardless of where Pokémon players are playing, this kind of respect for other park users is incredibly important," he said.

Sagebelle Wu, a member of Virgo's Facebook-based effort, wants to see more Pokémon players lend a helping hand in their communities.

"I've never seen so many people from all ages, all walks of life banding together," the 29-year-old said. "We can really turn this into a tool to help."

The social aspect of the game is what Virgo likes most, especially in a city where people often keep their heads down.

"It's a way of community building, getting to meet new people," he said. "Also, I've lost at least five or six pounds just playing this game."

WITH FILES FROM LUKE SIMCOE

SCIENCE

Researchers create a bendable battery

The batteries you buy at the store might soon be bendable, thanks to the invention of a vitamin-driven battery by researchers at the University of Toronto.

Not only could the battery be a disruptive technological force, but researchers also believe it will be cheaper and more environmentally friendly than standard batteries.

"We've been looking to nature for inspiration for a variety of new materials for electronic application," said Dwight Seferos, a U of T associate chemistry professor and the Canada Research Chair in Polymer Nanotechnology.

Seferos is part of a team of U of T chemists that spent the past year and a half creating the battery, as part of the university's Connaught Global Challenge research program.

The battery's cathode, the positive electrode through which electrons flow from the anode (negative electrode) to power electronic devices, is made from a vitamin-created plastic. That plastic is made of flavin, the active part of a vitamin B2 molecule. The prototype is on the scale of a hearing aid battery, both in size and power. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dwight Seferos, left, Mark Miltenburg, Tyler Schon and Andrew Tilley and their vitamin battery. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Here's the skinny

REAL ESTATE

Developers in Toronto look to thinner buildings

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

The future of density in downtown Toronto is looking a little thinner.

On the heels of an eight-metre wide, 17-storey condo tower on Mercer Street, another pencil-thin development is being proposed for the city's entertainment district.

86 John St: Tawse Realco Inc. is proposing an eight-storey restaurant complex at 86 John St. COURTESY CITY OF TORONTO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

> Every little nook and cranny in the city is being explored for development.
> Cherise Burda

Tawse Realco Inc. is looking to build an eight-storey "food-centric" retail building at 86 John St., complete with a bakery, wine bar and various restaurants on different floors, according to documents submitted to the city.

At about six metres wide, the slender lot stands in stark contrast to the large condo and retail developments around it.

While such skinny buildings are a common sight on the ultra-dense streets of Tokyo or Manhattan, urban planning experts say the conditions are ripe for the trend to arrive in Toronto.

"Land is very expensive right now," said Cherise Burda, director of Ryerson University's City Building Institute. "So every little nook and cranny in the city is being explored for development."

Land may be running out in Toronto's downtown core, but more and more people are choosing to live in the area, Burda said. As a result of demand, she says developers are eyeing space "in between or even on top of" existing buildings.

"There are little gaps on streets where there's an opportunity to add density but still maintain the character of the street," she said.

Deborah Scott, the architect and developer behind 24 Mercer St., said the "boutique" condo tower is modeled after the narrow lofts of New York's Soho neighbourhood. While the building itself is thin, she said the units — one per floor — are spacious.

Scott admits the condos will be pricey, but no more so than single-family homes in the city.

"People can't afford family homes in Toronto anymore," she said.

"We have to find denser solutions, like 24 Mercer, that can still offer larger living spaces."

24 Mercer St: A 17-storey condo development at 24 Mercer St. is expected to begin construction next spring. At just eight metres wide, it will be one of the narrowest multi-unit residential buildings downtown. COURTESY SCOTT SHIELDS ARCHITECTS

IN BRIEF

Police seek man who threw coffee at TTC driver

A Vaughan man is facing an assault with a weapon charge after a coffee was thrown at a TTC driver.

Police said the incident occurred June 8 when a TTC driver on Route 105 recognized a passenger who had verbally abused him weeks before. The man then walked to the front of the bus, threw coffee at the TTC driver

Police are asking for help in identifying the man. The driver was not burned.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Serial fraudster arrested for fake online ticket scam

A convicted, serial fraudster has been arrested in connection with allegations of duping 180 victims into buying fake tickets to concerts, including the Tragically Hip's Man Machine Poem Tour, Peel Regional Police say.

Shaun Michael Nixon, 36, has been charged in connection with a series of "ticket scam" frauds, following a joint investigation between Peel police's fraud unit, Toronto and Guelph police. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Few moms working outside the home

ANALYSIS

Report places Canada ninth among rich countries

Fewer Canadian mothers — especially those with young children — participate in the job market compared to moms in many wealthy countries, says a newly released internal federal analysis.

The Finance Department briefing note, prepared after the Liberals took power, also found that the workforce participation rates of Canadian mothers varied considerably depending on the province.

The document explored the link between child-care support and the involvement of women in the labour market.

It was created after last year's election campaign, during which the Liberals vowed to work with provinces, territories and indigenous communities to draw up a national framework on early learning and child care.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stops to talk with a mother and her daughter. A federal analysis says fewer Canadian mothers work outside home than those in many rich countries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Trudeau government's first spring budget committed $500 million in 2017-18 toward the framework's creation.

The Liberals have promised the initiative would avoid a "one-size-fits-all" national program, and instead consider the approaches used by different jurisdictions across Canada to address their respective child-care needs.

The government's detailed internal analysis, "The impact of child-care support on women's labour force participation," provides information that could add valuable context to such discussions.

75%

Employment rate for Canadian women aged 25 to 54 years old.

Based on 2013 data, it said the employment rate for "prime-aged" Canadian women — between 25 to 54 years old — with kids younger than 15 years old was 75 per cent. That number placed Canada ninth among fellow member countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, a prominent Paris-based think tank.

"Canadian women with children are less involved in the labour market than women in many OECD countries," said the partially redacted briefing note. THE CANADIAN PRESS

STATEMENT

Tootoo apologizes for relationship

Nunavut MP Hunter Tootoo, who cited an alcohol problem for leaving the Liberal caucus and cabinet earlier this year, apologized Wednesday for what he called a "consensual but inappropriate" relationship with an unidentified person.

Tootoo, who declared his return to politics late last month after a two-month hiatus to seek treatment for addiction, has been at the centre of persistent rumours that he had been involved with a staff member.

He acknowledged the relationship in a videotaped statement that was delivered at the CBC's Iqaluit studios and posted to the broadcaster's regional Facebook page.

"I let my judgment be clouded and I also let alcohol take over my life," Tootoo said, reading from a portfolio on his lap.

Hunter Tootoo CANADIAN PRESS FILE

"I am ashamed and I apologize to all involved, especially the people of Nunavut. I am deeply sorry." THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Man charged with threatening Trudeau

A Saskatchewan man has been charged with uttering threats against Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Christopher Hayes appeared briefly in a Yorkton courtroom.

RCMP say the 41-year-old allegedly made the threats on social media. Investigators received two complaints about the threats in March and July.

Hayes was arrested Tuesday at a home in the village of Grayson, northeast of Regina. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Republicans' Trump frustrations rise

CAMPAIGN

Poll numbers, morale sinking in recent spate of offences

Their party in crisis, Republicans' frustration with Donald Trump reached new heights on Wednesday as party leaders on Capitol Hill and inside New York's Trump Tower scrambled to persuade their presidential nominee to abandon divisive tactics that have triggered sinking poll numbers and low morale.

Party chairman Reince Priebus appealed to the New York billionaire's adult children to help amid new signs of a campaign in trouble.

Trump's operation has been beset by internal discord, including growing concern about general election preparedness and a lack of support from Republican leaders, according to two people familiar with the organization's inner workings.

One of the people said Trump privately blames his own staff for failing to quiet the backlash from his own party after he criticized an American Muslim family whose son, a U.S. Army captain, was killed in Iraq.

The inner tension comes as Priebus and a handful of high-profile Trump allies consider whether to confront the candidate directly to encourage a new approach following a series of startling stances and statements.

In the midst of the uproar over his continued criticism of the Khan family, Trump infuriated Priebus and other party leaders by refusing to endorse GOP House Speaker Paul Ryan's re-election. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump attends an event Wednesday, in Daytona Beach, Fla. EVAN VUCCI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEB CULTURE

Instagram launches anti-abuse features

Rebecca Williams
Metro | Toronto

Chrissy Teigen GETTY IMAGES

Instagram may be getting flak for "pulling a Melania Trump" with its "stories" option, but another feature rolled out by the platform is attracting some more positive attention.

As announced last week by The Washington Post, Instagram has been working on a feature that would allow users to filter out comments they deem negative.

That filter has now been made available to some accounts, mostly celebrities, including Chrissy Teigen. The model shared an image online of her showing the words she had chosen to filter, some funny (Trump) and others not so much (slut).

Instead of just blocking comments with words the social media platform sees as inflammatory, users will be allowed to choose the words they wish to filter out.

"Our goal is to make Instagram a friendly, fun and, most importantly, safe place for self expression," Instagram's head of public policy, Nicky Jackson Colaco, told the Post.

IN BRIEF

Woman killed, five injured in London knife attack
London police say a woman has died and five others were injured in a knife attack in a central part of the city.

Police said one man was arrested, and that a police officer had used a stun gun. They added that terrorism was a possible motive.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mandate for inquiry revealed

JUSTICE

Indigenous female judge to lead long-awaited probe

Families who believe investigators gave short shrift to their lost loved ones cases hope to have a second chance at justice as the next phase in the national inquiry murdered and missing indigenous women and girls begins.

Canada's first indigenous attorney general, Jody Wilson-Raybould, said the five-person commission can recommend to law enforcement that a criminal investigation be launched.

There is flexibility, under the inquiry's mandate, for the commissioners, led by B.C. indigenous judge Marion Buller, to figure out how justice can be achieved for the families, said Wilson-Raybould, a former B.C. regional chief of the Assembly of First Nations and a member of the We Wai Kai Nation.

"But it also speaks to their ability in hearing the lived experiences of the families and the survivors, the ability to refer specific cases to the appropriate authorities, be it the police or the attorneys general of the provinces or territories, referring the case in terms where there may be the need for more investigations or more findings," said Wilson-Raybould.

Witnesses can be compelled to testify before the inquiry and to summon all documents needed, Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett said. However, the inquiry does not have power to conduct its own criminal investigation. Cases must be referred to the police for that to happen, she said.

"The families who feel the death of their loved ones were called a suicide or an accident or an overdose as opposed to a murder, those patterns are the kinds of things the commissioners will have to look into," Bennett told a press conference at the Canadian Museum of History on Wednesday.

> **This is a historic day.**
> Denise Maloney-Pictou, whose mother Annie Mae Pictou was found dead in 1976

But criminal examinations can't take place in the inquiry itself because it "is not a criminal court," said Bennett.

Some families are upset, however, that the inquiry was not given the teeth needed to reopen cases.

"This is the problem. Families wanted inquiry to reopen," indigenous activist and lawyer Pam Palmater told the Star via Twitter, referring to sending cases back to provincial or territorial authorities.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bridget Tolley, whose mother Gladys was killed in 2001, is embraced after the announcement of the inquiry into murdered and missing indigenous women in Gatineau, Que., on Wednesday. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

KEY FIGURES:

1,181

The number of aboriginal women and girls who have died in the last several decades.

26 mos.

The length of time the inquiry has to complete its work. The commissioners will start Sept. 1 and the government wants a final report with recommendations and conclusions by Nov. 1, 2018. An interim report is due by Nov. 1, 2017.

$14M

The amount the cost of the inquiry has jumped by. The government earmarked $40 million in the budget for the investigation but announced on Wednesday that after initial consultations on how the inquiry should work, it's boosted the budget by $13.8 million.

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metro VIEWS

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

Thursday, August 4, 2016

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
ON WHY THE MMIW INQUIRY MATTERS

What we know about the problem is not nearly detailed enough. This independent inquiry is designed to provide the fullest picture possible, in the greatest detail. Action requires specificity.

It will be a two-year foray into one of our country's darkest shames.

The launch of the long-promised inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women and girls was a powerful moment for many, and a pivotal announcement.

One with the potential to change Canada.

This inquiry is the right move for grieving families. Fundamentally, it's not about what white Canadians want (though we stand to greatly benefit). It's about what indigenous families, communities and politicians are demanding.

As Manitoba NDP MLA Nahanni Fontaine told the CBC: "This journey for some families started 30 years ago, so for today to actually occur is first and foremost a testament of families' resiliency and determination and courage."

Even so, critics argue, this inquiry is a waste of time and money because what we need now — what indigenous Canadians deserve — is action.

We already know the root causes of violence against indigenous women and girls, they argue. We already know about the devastating rates of poverty, suicide, incarceration, children in government care, sexual violence, third-world living conditions and poor education outcomes that indigenous Canadians face.

Some, including Kyle Kematch, whose sister Amber Guiboche went missing in 2011, suspect one grand PR move on the part of the Liberals, where action should be.

I disagree on all fronts.

Mainstream Canada has looked the other way while indigenous women have been murdered.

To begin with, if this country already had everything it needed to repair relations with indigenous Canadians and offer fairness, justice and equality, we'd be doing it. Where governments are concerned, action is not born of facts. It's not always born of necessity. It can come long after it was due. It can seem to never arrive.

There are two plausible reasons why this called-for "action" — amorphous and rarely well defined by many critics — hasn't been taken. One is that we have been indifferent. The second is that what we know about the problem is not nearly detailed enough. And if we believe, as we should, the families of victims, both are true.

VICTIMS' FAMILIES TO THE FRONT Lorelei Williams holds an eagle feather as she wears a T-shirt with pictures of her cousin Tanya Holyk and aunt Belinda William during the missing and murdered women inquiry announcement. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The data collected and published by the RCMP has proved suspect. A Toronto Star investigation into missing and murdered indigenous women and girls found data that conflicted with the RCMP's public report, raised questions about how cases were categorized and drew suspicion over redactions in the released information. This independent inquiry — consisting of an indigenous chairwoman and four other indigenous commissioners — is designed to collect data and information in an unbiased fashion. To hear stories as yet untold. To offer the fullest picture possible in the greatest detail.

This is important because action requires specificity. You can't say you're going to fight racism in the police force, for example, and leave it at that. You need to understand how that racism functions in order to design a plan to remove it. You need to understand how sexism is perpetuated in communities and government agencies in order to address it. Yes, the problems for indigenous Canadians in broad strokes are well known. But their intricacies have been roundly ignored.

Even if this were not the case — even if we already knew all that we needed to — the public will to change the fate of indigenous Canadians has been lacking. Safe in our more comfortable lives, unaffected by racism and the effects of the Indian Act and residential schools, mainstream Canada has looked the other way while indigenous women have been murdered at a rate 4.5 times higher than the general female population. This inquiry could change that.

We know the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has already begun to. Polls show it has improved mainstream Canadian sentiment and sympathy toward indigenous peoples.

Any real action will require that sentiment, because it will require sacrifice from all of us. It could demand money, land, resources, rising taxes. This inquiry could build more appetite for the substantial collective effort that will truly bring change.

Finally, this inquiry, along with the TRC, could offer indigenous Canadians something that's been lost for more than a century: some level of trust in our governments, and some level of faith in the joint experiment that is our society. That is why all still basking in colonialism's benefits must grip it and wring it and demand of it every last ounce of insight and compassion.

As for where this commission may fall short, and where it may fail: I'd listen to any criticism from any family member of a missing or murdered indigenous woman, or any critic inside the Assembly of First Nations, the Native Women's Association of Canada, or other indigenous political, grassroots or community organizations, or any indigenous Canadian.

Everyone else: I don't care if you think it's a waste of time and money. The status quo is a devastating waste of lives.

Proof of the inquiry's effectiveness for families will lie in what ought to come after the report is published: dramatic improvement to indigenous women's lives and fulsome efforts to solve their deaths and disappearances.

But it takes blind privilege to believe nothing meaningful can be learned from the voices of the oppressed.

5 Things to know about the inquiry

1 It's already over budget

The federal government had originally budgeted $40 million for the inquiry over the next two years. The federal government disclosed Wednesday the commission will need more money to fulfil its mandate. Some critics say they fear the final price tag could end up being even higher than $53.8 million.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2 There's money for victims services

$16.2 million over the next four years goes toward victims services and to create liaison units to assist families. The measures are designed to ensure families feel connected to the inquiry process as it proceeds.

CP

3 Indigenous leaders hold the cards

It will be up to indigenous leaders to work with commissioners. Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde said he's confident the chiefs will be willing partners.

4 The final report will be non-binding

While they will be able to compel witnesses during their work, as stipulated in the Inquiries Act, they will not be able to force governments to comply with their findings.

CP

5 The timeline is flexible

Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett has stressed the need for the inquiry to be done properly, meaning the commissioners might be given longer than two years to finish their work.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Thursday, August 4, 2016

It started off innocently enough, but now that the clenched-fist Arthur meme has turned explicit, the show's network says it's 'disappointed'

Maybe she's born with it, maybe it's microblading

It's not just celebrities putting a lot of effort into their brows: sales of eyebrow makeup grew by 42 per cent in Canada in 2015, according research firm NPD Group. Can you name these famous eyebrows? Clockwise from top left: Emily Ratajkowski, Sabrina Carpenter, Priyanka Chopra, Chloe Moretz, Hawa Diawara, Amanda Peet, Kylie Jenner, Cara Delevingne. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

STYLE TREND

How eyebrows became the most important beauty canvas

Genna Buck
Metro Canada

Don't look so surprised.

Seriously, don't. Plucked, highly arched eyebrows are a beauty faux pas now. They've been replaced with a perfectly sculpted, full and natural look.

As one salty Internet meme scolds: "Don't let anybody with bad eyebrows tell you sh-t about life."

Putting aside the harms inherent in unattainable beauty standards, when did eyebrows become so important? Recently, it seems.

According to the market research firm NPD Group, sales of eyebrow makeup grew by 42 per cent in Canada in 2015, handily outperforming the 18 per cent growth in makeup sales overall.

It's not just pencils anymore: Eyebrow gels, tints, and powders and the services proffered by "brow bars" — beauty salons that focus mostly or entirely on eyebrows — are booming too.

One such growing business is Winnipeg's Brows by G, which specializes in microblading, a type of semi-permanent cosmetic tattooing sometimes called "eyebrow embroidery" that has taken off in the last few years.

The owner, Giovanna Minenna, spends much of her time teaching other beauty professionals how to do the sought-after service.

The women driving the boom, explained Cara Dveris, Brows by G's studio manager, have serious eyebrow regret.

In the 1970s, '80s and '90s, everyone had that really thin brow," she said. "We're getting a lot of clients in their 50s and 60s now who over-plucked back in the day. And their hair never grew back."

Priyanka Jain, a 31-year-old public health specialist who drives 40 km from Toronto to see her trusted "eyebrow lady" in Oakville, Ont., suggested another reason for the eyebrow explosion: The growth and influence of communities where eyebrows have long been a cornerstone of many women's beauty routine.

"It's a new cultural phenomenon in terms of the mainstream, but if you were a South Asian girl growing up, you've been doing your eyebrows for a very long time," she said.

"When I go to a new city, it's the first thing I ask a friend: 'Where do you get your eyebrows threaded?'"

Jain is one of those consumers clamoring for eyebrow makeup.

"When I fill in my eyebrows, I get so many compliments. People go "Wow.' I look like I'm put together."

Claudia Coelho, a Toronto-based freelance makeup artist, attributes society's growing fascination with eyebrows in part to U.K. actor Cara Delevingne, who "put the big, bold brows on the map."

In her business, "When it comes to bridal, beauty and prom clients, it's definitely all about the brows," she said. "It's definitely social media driving it."

Beauty gurus on YouTube and Instagram have elevated eyebrow sculpting (and makeup in general) to a hobby, even an art form, she explained: "It's just a different canvas."

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BY THE NUMBERS

Potter script sells more than 2M copies in 2 days

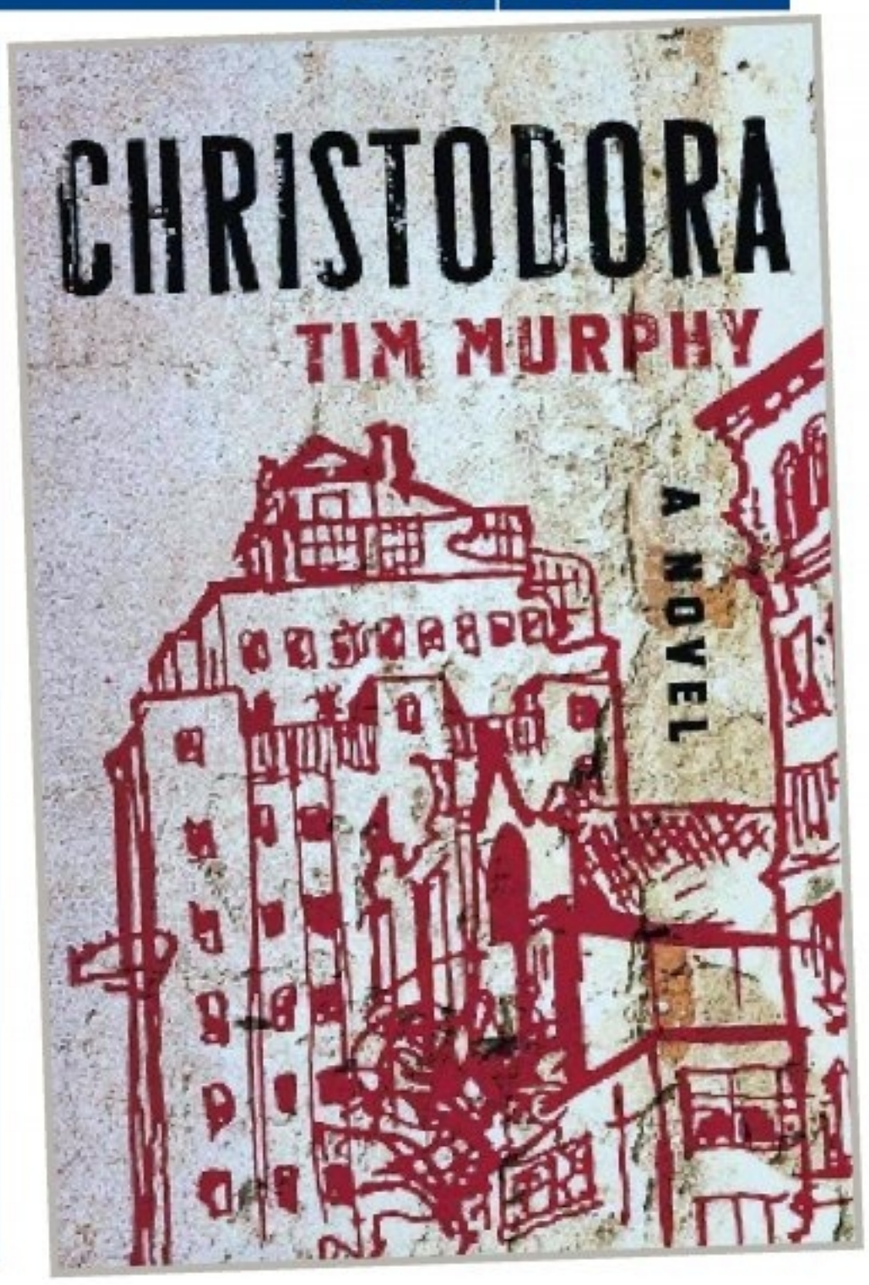
Reviews for the Harry Potter and the Cursed Child Parts One and Two book have been mixed, but it has topped the bestseller lists of Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com. It's still among the fastest-selling works in history. Here is the numbers breakdown:

2M

The script to the London stage production sold more than 2 million print copies in North America in its first two days of publication, Scholastic announced Wednesday.

8.3M

That's well below the 8.3 million copies sold in 2007 for the first day of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, J.K. Rowling's then-presumed finale for her fantasy series. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Tragedy that felt like 'war' for the gay community

INTERVIEW

Cristodora captures the devastation of AIDS crisis

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Two weeks ago at a meeting for Gays Against Guns — a New York City activist group that immobilized in response to the Orlando nightclub shooting — more than 100 concerned citizens showed up to plan future protests, among them, novelist and journalist Tim Murphy.

Gays Against Guns' grassroots direct-action strategy brought Murphy back to the 1990s, when the AIDS advocacy group ACT UP took to the streets fighting for meaningful policy change and medical research. "It feels like an activistic-charged moment for gay people," he says.

The LGBT centre where the meeting was held is the same one that Murphy uses as a location in his new novel, Christadora, which captures, over three decades, how AIDS devastated the community, and continues to act like a malevolent ghost over the families, friends and lovers of those affected by the epidemic. "It's crazy that something I wrote about as a period thing, something lost in time that I tried to recapture, is suddenly, unexpectedly become part of my life," Murphy says.

Christadora is the name of an apartment building in the city's Lower East Side, where upper-middle-class artists Milly and Jared live with their adopted son Mateo, who was born to a young woman who died from AIDS. It's also home to Hector, a burned-out activist whose personal grief manifests as a crippling drug addiction. The epic story and its broad cast of characters captures several other defining themes from Murphy's own life: mental illness, the compulsion to create art, and how a supportive creative community can transform

> **This was an emotional book for me.**
> Author Tim Murphy

into family. It's also a homage to New York and the dramatic changes that have occurred to the cityscape over the past 30 years. "The city has become this hall of ghosts and memories, and the past and present and future bleed into each other," he says.

Murphy, who is 47 years old, wrote two novels while in his 20s, but after recovering from depression and addiction, found an outlet in journalism, mostly writing about AIDS-related issues. "At the time I thought, why keep writing fiction? It's silly, with so many grievous things happening in the world," he says. But by 2009, he felt a deep need to write fiction again, and to respond to the fact that, despite the introduction of life-saving drugs and attitudinal shifts, people are still dealing with lingering depression and isolation and addiction. "It felt like everyone had been through a war or tragedy and there hadn't been much written that addressed or processed it," he says. "It really coloured the gay world, and a generation, really."

Many of the characters that appear in Christadora are composites of people from Murphy's own life or who were involved in the original AIDS movement. He weaves in intensive research, including the often-overlooked fact that many women were also affected by the disease. "I think that putting it into characters and into narrative makes it vivid in a way that non-fiction can't," Murphy says. "This was an emotional book for me. It felt like a way of figuring out what was going on deeper in my heart."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

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Below Her Mouth, a lesbian love story shot in Toronto, has been given a TIFF premiere spot. CONTRIBUTED

Passion, violence at TIFF

CANADIAN LINEUP

Toronto-shot lesbian love story gets fest premiere

Director April Mullen's "bold, uninhibited" lesbian love story Below Her Mouth, shot last fall in Toronto using an all-female crew, will have its world premiere at TIFF in September.

Written by Stephanie Fabrizi, the drama stars Canadian actress Natalie Krill as Jasmine and Swedish gender-bending model Erika Linder as Dallas, in the story of two Toronto women caught up in a passionate love affair that changes both their lives.

"We think the world is ready for this love story," said producer Melissa Coghlan, who describes the drama as "a mainstream film where the two characters falling in love just happen to be women."

The film also pays homage to Toronto by showcasing the city, Coghlan said, adding the TIFF premiere slot was "our dream" for the filmmakers. Below Her Mouth will be in theatres around Valentine's Day.

TIFF announced its slate of Canadian films, screening in a variety of programs at the Sept. 8-18 festival, on Wednesday.

Also making its world debut is Deepa Mehta's drama Anatomy of Violence, based on the 2012 fatal gang rape of a 23-year-old woman on a New Delhi bus.

Matt Johnson's and Jay McCarrol's Nirvana the Band the Show, which screens in the return of the festival's TV-based Primetime program and Bruce McDonald's 1976-set black-and-white Weirdos, about a teen runaway and his girlfriend hitting the road in Nova Scotia, will have World Premieres at TIFF.

Also in the Canadian lineup are documentaries about legendary actor Gordon Pinsent (The River of My Dreams, directed by Brigitte Berman), government manipulation of the internet (Black Code, directed by Nicholas de Pencier), basketball dreams in Africa (Hubert Davis's Giants of Africa) and the unlikely journey of Sunny Leone, raised in a strict Sikh home in Sarnia, who went from adult films to Bollywood success (Mostly Sunny directed by Dilip Mehta).

Fred Peabody's doc All Governments Lie: Truth, Deception and the Spirit of I.F. Stone explores how investigative journalists like Glenn Greenwald are changing the news business by breaking global stories outside mainstream media.

Alanis Obomsawin's documentary about the court challenge over the quality of child and family welfare services for First Nations children, We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice, has its World Premiere in the Masters program.

Festivalgoers will also be able to see the North American premieres of films from Xavier Dolan (It's Only the End of the World), Nathan Morlando (Mean Dreams) and Kim Nguyen (Two Lovers and a Bear).

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

Comedy tackles racism in the U.S.

The racism seminar in Superstore is a micro event for the macro things happening across the U.S. today. CONTRIBUTED

THE SHOW: Superstore, Season 1, Episode 3 (Global/NBC)
THE MOMENT: The racism seminar

Several employees of the superstore Cloud 9 (think Wal-Mart) have crossed a racist line: Mateo (Nico Santos), who is Asian, was pretending to be Mexican. Chastising him, Amy (American Ferrera, whose parents are Honduran) did a racist Asian accent. Jonah (Ben Feldman) helped an elderly lady who turned out to be a white supremacist. Their boss Glenn (Mark McKinney) lectures them on sensitivity.

"Anyone can be a racist," Glenn says.

"I was not being racist," Amy insists. "I was making a comment about racism."

"Helping people because they're white is almost as bad as discriminating against them if they're not white," Glenn tells Jonah.

"It's exactly as bad," says Garrett (Colton Dunn), who is black.

"I helped that lady because she was old, not because she was white," Jonah says.

"Ageism is just as racist as racism," says Mateo, who dislikes Jonah.

"Are racist jokes OK again?" asks Dina (Lauren Ash). "Did you hear the one about the Jewish bird?"

Showrunner Justin Spitzer previously wrote for The Office, so workplace-comedy comparisons are inevitable. The overlapping quips, and Amy and Jonah's will-they-won't-they attraction, feel familiar. But while the earlier series explored the minutia of behavior among people trapped in dull jobs — small things writ large — this new one cracks the world open.

The discount chain Cloud 9 bridges all racial and economic gaps. Its customers and employees are about what the U.S. looks like now, and how it's coping with that. It's big stuff — immigration, ethnic tension, corporate greed — writ funny.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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Condos offer more than in past

HIGH-RISE LIVING

Appearance, amenities now must-haves for buildings

Duncan McAllister
For Metro Canada

Toronto has a long history of condominiums going right back to the early concrete high-rises of the post-war era. The modern condominium residence as we now know it, has evolved over many decades.

The Grande Dames of Toronto's condo scene, venerable buildings like Palace Pier, Harbour Square and the Summit, were built in the 1970s and '80s, and set the pace for Toronto's current condo boom.

Thankfully, we've come a long way from the plain concrete obelisks of Toronto's early modernist architecture. One of the first condo projects to adorn the city's waterfront was the trio of drab towers of Harbour Point. Built in the 1980s, the much-maligned project by Huang and Danczkay is known colloquially as the Three Ugly Sisters, a reminder of how Toronto got off on the wrong foot in the early condo days.

Design-wise, avocado was the colour of the day, solariums were all the rage and every room was bedecked in luxurious wall-to-wall broadloom, proof positive that the seventies was the decade that taste forgot.

The Harbour Point condos on Toronto's waterfront, known colloquially as the Three Ugly Sisters, is a reminder of how Toronto got off on the wrong foot in the early condo days.
DUNCAN MCALLISTER/FOR METRO

The courtyard at Radiance at Minto Gardens, a 34-storey tower at 33 Sheppard Ave., was the first LEED-certified condo in Canada. CONTRIBUTED

> **Today ... developers aim to encourage lifestyle. Kids' playrooms, pet spas and piped-in gas barbecues are some of the myriad options available for residents to enjoy condo life.**

High-rise living was more restrictive in the past. Many buildings didn't allow children or pets. It was forbidden to have a barbecue. Today, the opposite is true: developers aim to encourage lifestyle. Kids' playrooms, pet spas and piped-in gas barbecues are some of the myriad options available for residents to enjoy condo life.

Construction methods have come a long way, as well as architecture and design, producing residential buildings today, that are more pleasing to the eye as well as environmentally sustainable. Wasabi is the new avocado, engineered hardwoods have displaced the broadloom, and glass curtain wall has rendered solariums and precast concrete obsolete.

In 2004, following the advent of the LEED certification system for highrises, Toronto developer Minto Group was first out of the gate in making sure all of its buildings met that standard of sustainability. Radiance at Minto Gardens, a 34-storey tower at Yonge St. and Sheppard Ave., was the first LEED-certified condo in Canada.

The voluntary building rating system administered by the Canada Green Building Council recognizes the use of energy efficiency and environmental design elements in buildings.

According to Wells Baker, Minto's director of conservation and sustainable design, LEED certification has had a big impact on the way condos are built today. "Many of the features we incorporated into our first LEED-certified condo over a decade ago are things purchasers have come to expect."

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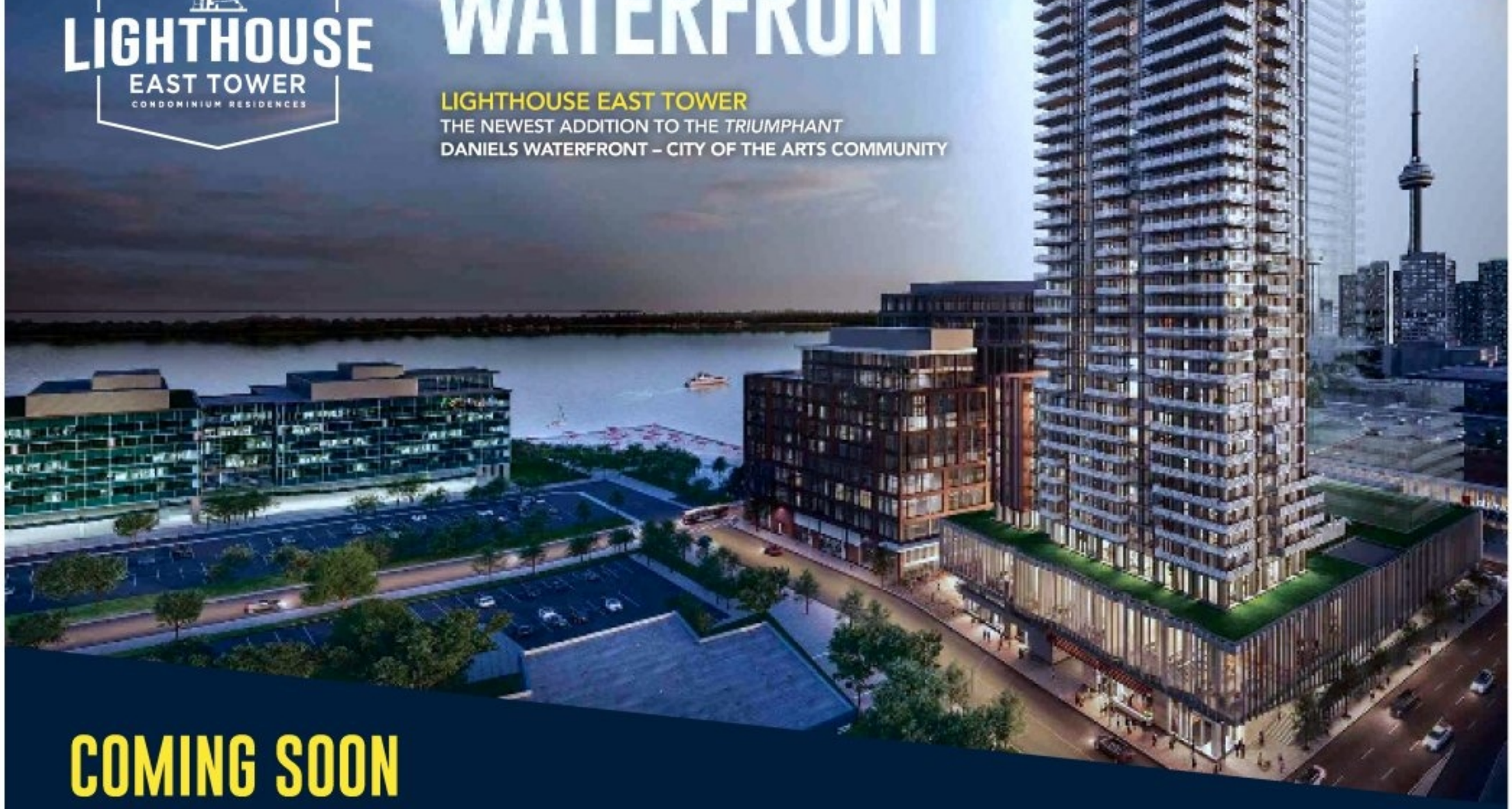

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Midtown living on Rodeo Drive

Project overview

Rodeo Drive is the first of a multi-phase residential condominium with prime retail on the ground floor. The slender tower is clad in glass and precast white panels with clean, open concept suites designed by Alessandro Munge.

Building amenities

Eighth floor amenities include a fitness room, a sauna, indoor party room, an outdoor pool, hot tub and lounging deck. There's also an outdoor lounge and barbecue area, a dining room with kitchen and a 24-hour concierge.

Location and transit

The condo is situated midtown at the Shops at Don Mills, with a choice of TTC bus routes offering connections to the subway and the upcoming LRT. Drivers are close to the Don Valley Parkway.

In the neighbourhood

A shopper's dream, the Shops at Don Mills has a wealth of services. The neighbourhood also offers public and private schools, golf courses, parks, ravine trails, and community centres all nearby.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

What: Rodeo Drive Condominiums
Builder: Lanterra and Cadillac Fairview
Architect: Hariri Pontarini Architects
Interiors: Studio Munge
Location: At the Shops at Don Mills
Building: A 32-storey tower with 425 units
Sizes: From 479 to 1,013 sq. ft.
Pricing: From $280,900 to the $600,000s
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Ex-Knicks coach Derek Fisher hinted he's considering a return to playing after posting a workout video labeled #Imnotdoneyet

Beckie has Canada up and running after 20 seconds

ROAD TO Rio
Flying start

Women off to Olympic flyer as Harnett sets a medal target

It was a dramatic start for Canada at the Rio Summer Games on Wednesday.

Janine Beckie scored the quickest goal in Olympic soccer history as the Canadian women's soccer team earned a dramatic 2-0 win over Australia in Sao Paolo, Brazil. Beckie opened the scoring just 20 seconds into the match as Canada secured the victory despite playing short-handed for 71 minutes after Shelina Zadorsky received a red card.

The women's preliminary soccer schedule began two days before the Games are scheduled to officially open. After plenty of anxious moments for the Canadians, veteran captain Christine Sinclair cemented the win in the 80th minute.

Sinclair also made her presence felt early, intercepting Laura Alleway's pass to defensive partner Alanna Kennedy in front of the penalty box. And when Alleway rushed out at the Canadian captain, Sinclair coolly rolled a perfect pass through her legs to Beckie who tapped the ball past Australian goalkeeper Lydia Williams.

But the Canadians lost Zadorsky in the 19th minute, leaving Canada a player short for the remainder of the contest to nurse the slim lead. Zadorsky grabbed an Australian attacker by the shoulder, forcing her down.

Williams stopped a Beckie penalty in the 73rd minute after what was deemed an Australia handball in the box.

But Sinclair earned the insurance goal for Canada, beating Williams to a long ball from Fleming and then knocking it into an empty net. She celebrated with verve, clenching her fists. Canadian coach John Herdman said his team dug deep.

"The game had a bit of everything," he said. "It was great to watch."

The Olympic flame is now in Rio, ready for the lighting of the cauldron Friday. The torch relay, which began with a ceremonial lighting in Ancient Olympia, Greece in April, hitched a ride on a tour boat to reach the first city in South America to host the Olympics.

The Canadian Olympic Committee also held its traditional kickoff news conference Wednesday. The overriding theme was "Canada is ready" after its athletes registered 34 top-five world championship performances in the past year after a strong showing at last summer's Pan Ams in Toronto.

The international results, says Canadian chef de mission Curt Harnett, show Canada is on pace to reach its goal of a top-12 finish in the final medal standings.

"Our athletes' performances on the international stage have been incredible, and have kept our athletes on track with this goal," said Harnett, a three-time Olympic cycling medallist. "It has been such an honour to see them in beast mode over the last few months on the road to Rio."

Harnett believes Canada's 314-member team will win in the range of 19-plus medals, which would be one more than the Canadians brought home four years ago from London. Topping 20 medals would be a significant accomplishment for the Canadian squad — the last time that happened was 1996 (22 medals).

The Canadian medal run is expected to be anchored by a track and field team that made a historic eight marches to the podium at last summer's world championships.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"It has been such an honour to see them in beast mode over the last few months on the road to Rio.
Canada chef de mission Curt Harnett

Janine Beckie scored just 20 seconds into Canada's match against Australia in Sao Paulo. MIGUEL SCHINCARIOL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Baseball, karate in Tokyo
Olympic leaders approved the addition of five sports to the program of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics on Wednesday, including the return of baseball-softball and the introduction of skateboarding and surfing. The International Olympic Committee voted to accept the five-sport package, which includes karate and sport climbing.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cubs win a really wild one
The Chicago Cubs rallied for three runs in the bottom of the ninth inning — capped by a bases-loaded walk for a tie and a wild pitch to score the winning run — for a 5-4 victory over the Miami Marlins on Wednesday and a sweep of the three-game series. With Willson Contreras at the plate, Marlins closer A.J. Ramos threw a wild pitch to allow Matt Szczur to score the winning. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gausman tops Hamels
Kevin Gausman outpitched Cole Hamels, and the Baltimore Orioles rode a three-run first inning to a 3-2 victory over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday. Matt Wieters had two RBIs for the AL East-leading Orioles, whose 39-16 record at home is the best in the majors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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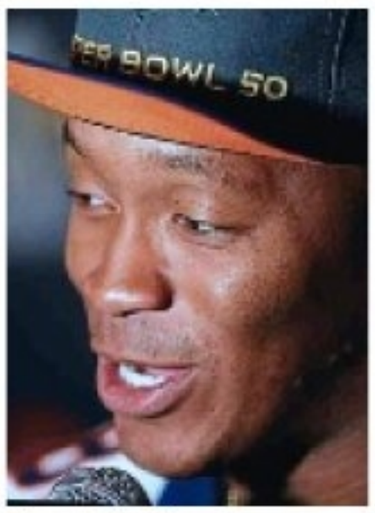
Thomas gets good news on granny

NFL

Bronco has 2nd family member get prison respite


Demaryius Thomas
GETTY IMAGES

Demaryius Thomas used the Denver Broncos' celebratory White House visit in June to deliver a handwritten note to U.S. President Barack Obama thanking him for commuting Thomas' mother's drug sentence last year and then asked him to do the same for his grandmother.

The Broncos wide receiver is ready to pen another thank you note after he was told the president fulfilled his wish. Minnie Pearl Thomas was among 214 federal inmates whose sentences were cut short Wednesday by Obama.

"I'm kind of jacked up right now. I don't really know what to say," Thomas said after the Broncos' morning workout. "I kind of just want to talk to my granny. I haven't talked to her in a couple of weeks. I'm excited for her."

Thomas' grandmother, who was serving life for a drug offence, is to be released on Dec. 1.

Last year, Obama commuted the sentence of Thomas' mother, Katina Smith, as part of his push to reduce the prison population of non-violent drug offenders. She was in attendance when the Broncos defeated Carolina 24-10 in Super Bowl 50, and she was on Thomas' mind when Obama hosted the champions in June.

After briefly talking with the president, Thomas had a sense his grandmother had a chance to have her sentence shortened.

"I still remember when we were at the White House, I was talking about my mom and I was saying thank you," Thomas said. "The fact that he mentioned my grandmother, I knew something was going to happen."

Smith was convicted on drug trafficking charges for her role in a crack cocaine ring she and her mother operated out of their Georgia home.

Minnie Pearl Thomas, 60, and Smith shared a cell in a federal prison in Florida before Smith's sentence was commuted last summer. Smith spent time in a halfway house before being released in November.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLS **TFC LIFTED BY NEWCOMER** Tosaint Ricketts scored his first goal as a member of the Reds to lift Toronto FC to a 1-0 victory over Real Salt Lake on Wednesday night. The victory extended Toronto's (9-7-6) win streak to a season-high three games and moved the Reds into sole possession of second place in the Eastern Conference. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCCER IN BRIEF

City sign Brazilian Gabriel
Manchester City signed one of Brazil's most highly rated forwards on Wednesday to continue the club's recruitment drive under new coach Pep Guardiola.

Gabriel Jesus, who is the top scorer in the Brazilian league with Palmeiras and a member of Brazil's Olympic team, completed his move to City for a reported 27 million pounds ($36 million US). The 19-year-old Gabriel Jesus has agreed to a 4-1/2-year deal starting January 2017.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Le Toux lands in Colorado
The Philadelphia Union traded French midfielder Sebastien Le Toux to the Colorado Rapids on Wednesday in exchange for general allocation money.

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RECIPE Muffaletta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Spend a few minutes in the morning assembling this gorgeous beast of a sandwich and come home just long enough to grab it and head back outside for a picnic dinner.

Ready in
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Total Time: 8 hours

Ingredients
- 1 loaf of bread
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 Tbsp black olive tapenade
- 1 cup roasted red peppers, sliced into strips
- 2 cups mozzarella, sliced
- 2 handfuls of fresh basil
- 8 to 10 pieces of thinly sliced ham or prosciutto
- 1 or 2 tomatoes, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup green olives, sliced

Directions

1. Use a serrated knife to cut off the top third of the loaf of bread. Tear away the interior bread leaving about one inch, including the crust. Brush the inside of the top and bottom pieces with olive oil. Spread the tapenade on the underside of the top and set aside.

2. Begin layering. You can't go wrong. First lay down the red peppers. Next, lay down the mozzarella and cover with basil. Ham could come next, then olives and tomatoes. When you're done, place the top on and gently press down.

3. Wrap in cling film and place on a plate with something heavy on top. Put it in the fridge overnight. When you're ready to serve, unwrap your sandwich and cut into the loaf with a serrated knife.

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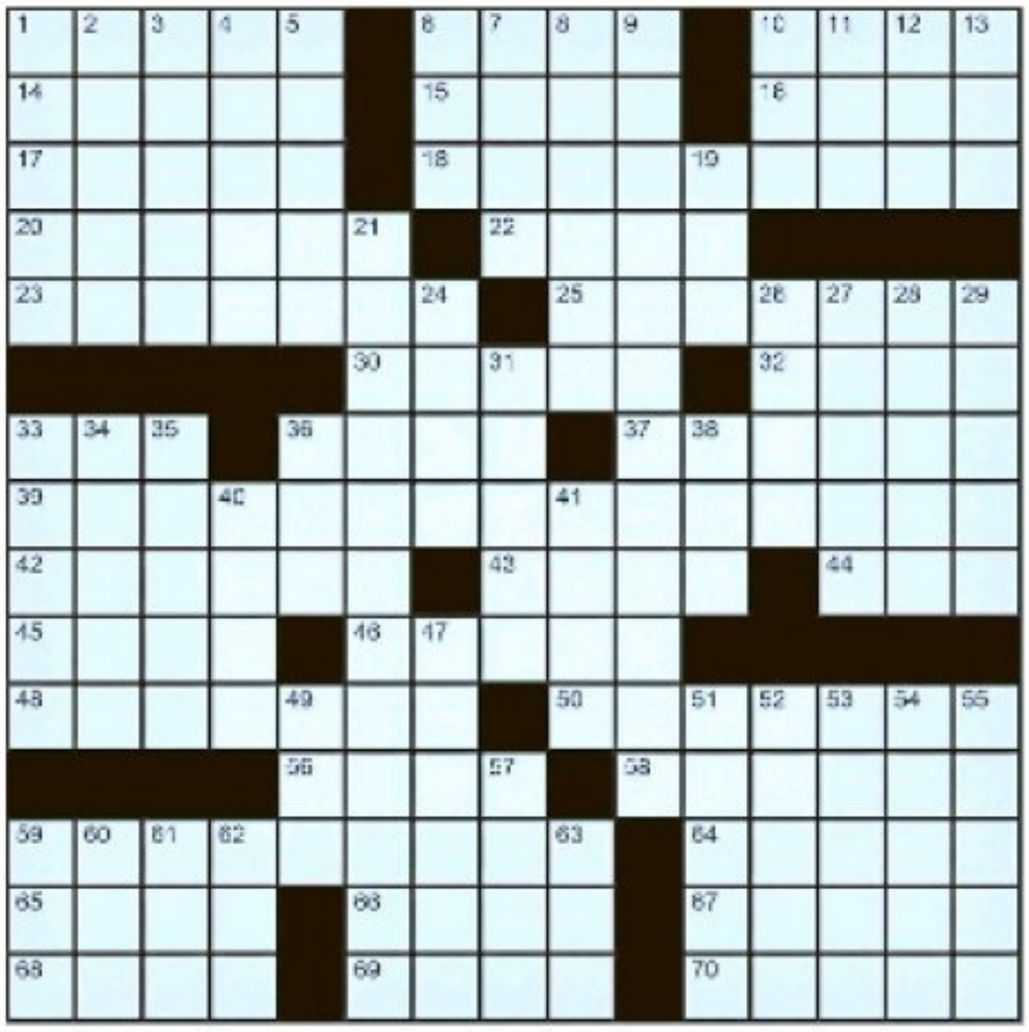
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Prefix to 'biotic' (Type of diet)
6. Dracula, e.g.
10. Hollywood icon Ms. Crawford
14. Sounded satisfied
15. Quant _ _ (For my part, in French)
16. Up to it
17. Shred the cheese
18. Magic screen toy
20. "You're welcome.", fun-style: 2 wds.
22. Raison d'_
23. Word's opposite meaning word
25. Paper craft of Japan
30. Canadian comic strip, For Better or For _
32. The Good Earth heroine
33. "_ Wiedersehen!"
36. Spare
37. John Lennon art portfolio: 2 wds.
39. Historic body of Canadian water, e.g.: 3 wds.
42. _ over (Capsized)
43. North: French
44. Ouest's opposite
45. Nabisco cookie
46. Has permission to, Shakespeare-style
48. Plant boss
50. Current
56. Consequently
58. Not any longer: 2 wds.
59. 6/49 and Lotto Max winners, sometimes
64. Spaghetti topper
65. Famed NYC music club
66. General Robert _. _
67. Verbs subject
68. Snake snacks
69. Use a stun gun
70. Foxier

DOWN
1. _ Carta
2. Mr. Eckhart
3. Book's one-of-some, for short
4. Like '80s fashions now
5. Cineplex _
6. "Rhoda" star Ms. Harper, to pals
7. 1975 title song lady hit for American band Pure Prairie League
8. Words to live by
9. Whitehorse-born author of 1970 book The National Dream: 2 wds.
10. Jam container
11. Broad belt
12. Highness, for short
13. Society notice word
19. "_ Mir Bist Du Schon"
21. Ottawa shopping area since 1826: 2 wds.
24. Change residence
26. 1956: "The Wayward Wind" by _ Grant
27. "_ _ like ours / Could never die..." - The Beatles
28. Sometimes-braided horse hairs
29. Torpid
31. Director Mr. Harlin
33. Andrew Lloyd Webber tune: "All I _ _ You"
34. Nirvana album: 'In _'
35. Fugitive
36. Stockholm is its cap.
38. 'Dull' suffix
40. Balm additive
41. Toll
47. Ms. Lansbury
49. Sea: French
51. Military assignments
52. Urge forward
53. Like the cob's stuff
54. Come about
55. French painter known for 'Tubism', Fernand _ (b.1881 - d.1955)
57. Iron and lead
59. John Fogerty's gr.
60. Northeastern Ontario community
61. Scale readout, for short
62. Archaic [abbr.]
63. Behold

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You're keen to get better organized today, even though someone who is a teacher or from another culture might discourage you. Perhaps this person wants to play?

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Explore creative opportunities today. Accept invitations to party and enjoy sports events and the arts. Financial restrictions might limit your choice. (Ain't it the truth?)

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Lately, your busy pace has been exhausting. That's why you welcome an opportunity to cocoon at home and enjoy the comfort of familiar surroundings.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Today you're full of bright ideas that you want to share with others. Late in the day, someone might discourage you, because this person is older or more experienced. Don't let this happen.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Keep an eye on your finances today, because you might want to shop or explore financial negotiations. Whatever you do seems to be at odds with your social plans.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Be aware that your reaction to others and daily events might be more emotional than usual today. Don't worry about this — it happens.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Work alone or behind the scenes today, because this will suit you best. Your increased popularity lately has stretched you a bit thin. Take a rest!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Enjoy schmoozing with others today, especially younger people. A serious conversation with a female acquaintance will be important.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are high-viz today — people notice you. This suits you perfectly, because you have something to say. Don't second-guess yourself and don't hold back.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a fun day to discuss future travel plans. You will enjoy meeting people from different cultures and backgrounds because you want to expand your experience of the world.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Tie up loose details regarding debt, shared property, taxes and inheritances.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You have to compromise with others, because the Moon is opposite your sign. This is not a big deal. Just go with the flow. Late in the day, someone older might be opinionated. (Dodge this if you can.)

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		4	3	5	6	9		
	5						3	
6								2
3		6	4		9	7		5
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	3						2	
		8	2	3	4	1		

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